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RESPONSE BY RICHARD T. ELY.

Mr. President : On behalf of the American Historical Association, and of the American Economic Association, I thank you for your cordial words of welcome. It gives us peculiar pleasure to be in Ann Arbor, the seat of the University of Michigan. There are so many reasons why we are glad to have the privilege of being with you that I could not attempt to mention them all. I may, however, allude to one or two. We are glad to come together in this beautiful city from every part of our common country and renew old associations and to form new connections under such happy auspices. We all feel, I am sure, that the chief thing in coming together as we do year after year is not merely to listen to papers nor even to read papers to appreciative and patient audiences. I doubt if that is even the chief thing. Probably we would all say that the great thing is personal contact and the informal exchange of ideas. It is necessary to worthy intellectual and social life that we should come together and learn to know each other face to face.

But there is another circumstance which should be mentioned. When we historians and economists meet in this place we are grateful for the contributions which the University of Michigan has made, on the one hand to good citizenship, and on the other, to sound scholarship in history, economics and allied branches of knowledge. We remember the great service which the University of Michigan has rendered in contributions of historians and economists to our public service. I cannot mention names generally, there are too many of

them, but, ladies and gentlemen, under the present circumstances we all recall the diplomatic services in the Orient which have been rendered by the president of the University of Michigan, the distinguished gentleman who has kindly consented to occupy the chair at this joint meeting.

The University of Michigan also suggests the name of Honorable Andrew D. White, who began his career here, and who, here and elsewhere, has stimulated so many young men to do good work—some of them now no longer exactly young men. We recall also the service which, through Dr. Charles Kendall Adams, the University of Michigan rendered in the establishment of the seminary method in this country. We recall also names of those now present who have made important contributions to historical, economic and statistical knowledge.

Mr. President, we feel that while we are in Ann Arbor we are in good company, and we express to you our gratitude for what the University of Michigan has done for those lines of work which especially interest us. Again, on behalf of the American Historical Association, and the American Economic Association, I thank you warmly for your greeting.